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United Nations Forum on Forests

Report of the eighth session (27 April 2007 and 20 April to 1 May 2009)

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decisions for adoption by the Council

1. The United Nations Forum on Forests recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I
Dates and venue for the ninth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

The Economic and Social Council decides that the ninth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests will be held from 24 January to 4 February 2011 in New York.

Draft decision II
Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its eighth session and provisional agenda for its ninth session

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its eighth session;[1]

(b) Approves the provisional agenda for the ninth session of the Forum as set out below.

Provisional agenda for the ninth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

   Documentation

   Provisional agenda and annotations

3. Assessment of progress made on the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and towards the achievement of the four global objectives on forests.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General

4. Regional and subregional inputs.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 22* (E/2009/42).

5. Forests for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication:

(a) Community-based forest management;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(b) Social development and indigenous and other local and forest-dependent communities, including forest land tenure;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(c) Social and cultural aspects.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

6. International Year of Forests 2011.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

7. Emerging issue.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

8. High-level segment.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

Note on the Collaborative Partnership on Forests

9. Multi-stakeholder dialogue.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat transmitting discussion papers of major groups

10. Enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

Collaborative Partnership on Forests Framework 2010 and 2011

11. Means of implementation.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

12. Forum trust fund.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat

13. Other matters.

14. Dates and venue for the tenth session of the Forum.

15. Provisional agenda for the tenth session of the Forum.

16. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its ninth session.

B. Resolution brought to the attention of the Council

2. The following resolution adopted by the United Nations Forum on Forests is brought to the attention of the Council:

Forests in a changing environment, enhanced cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination, regional and subregional inputs

The United Nations Forum on Forests,

Recalling the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution 62/98 of 17 December 2007, including its purposes,

Reaffirming the commitment of Member States to the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and development policies and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and to the common but differentiated responsibilities of countries, as set out in principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,

Recalling the overall theme of the eighth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, "Forests in a changing environment", and its related themes on forests and climate change; reversing the loss of forest cover, preventing forest degradation in all types of forests and combating desertification, including in low forest cover countries; and forests and biodiversity conservation, including protected areas, as established in the Forum's multi-year programme of work,

Concerned about the interrelated impacts on forests in many regions of the world of climate change, loss of forest cover, forest degradation, desertification and biodiversity loss, and the associated impacts on over 1.6 billion people who depend on forests for subsistence, livelihood, income and employment, while also recognizing the contribution of forests in addressing climate change, biodiversity conservation and combating desertification,

Recognizing the special needs and requirements of countries with fragile forest ecosystems, including those of low forest cover countries,

Emphasizing that sustainable forest management, as a dynamic and evolving concept, aims to maintain and enhance the economic, social and environmental benefits of all types of forests and, as such, can significantly contribute to addressing climate change, desertification, forest and land degradation, forest biodiversity and soil and water conservation,

Also emphasizing that the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests offers an integrated framework to implement sustainable forest management and in turn contribute to addressing the interrelated challenges of climate change, forest loss and degradation, and desertification, as well as contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity, in a coherent, coordinated and cross-sectoral manner at local, national, regional and global levels,

Taking note of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fourth Assessment Report and of the recent joint initiatives of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests on forests and climate change, including the Strategic Framework for Forests and Climate Change and the report prepared under the Global Forest Expert Panels initiative by the Expert Panel on Adaptation of Forests to Climate Change,

Recalling relevant decisions and objectives of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice recognizing the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests and noting the opportunities for cooperation and coordination provided by the upcoming conferences of the parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (September 2009, Buenos Aires), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (December 2009, Copenhagen) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (October 2010, Nagoya, Japan) and the session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (April 2010, Vienna),

Welcoming regional and subregional initiatives to identify and address the interrelated challenges of forests in a changing environment, as well as the contribution of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in this regard,

1. *Decides*:

(a) To encourage Member States to strengthen the implementation of sustainable forest management in addressing the challenges of forests in a changing environment, including climate change, loss of forest cover, forest degradation, desertification and biodiversity loss, in the context of sustainable development;

(b) Also to encourage Member States to use national forest programmes or other strategies, as appropriate, for sustainable forest management to integrate measures to address climate change, conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity, desertification, deforestation, degradation of forest ecosystems and water resources management, and to seek coherence with national development and poverty eradication strategies, as well as with strategies and action plans under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(c) Further to encourage Member States to strengthen coordination, in particular among their national focal points for the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as, where applicable, for other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands to facilitate implementation of sustainable forest management at national and other applicable levels;

(d) To encourage Member States to share their experiences at the ninth session of the Forum in the context of the overall theme "Forests for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication" and the related themes on community-based forest management; social development and indigenous and other local and forest-dependent communities, including forest land tenure; and social and cultural aspects;

(e) To invite Member States, members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and regional entities to enhance cooperation on the Forum's cross-cutting issue of forest law enforcement and governance, including combating illicit international trafficking in forest products, as well as sharing of relevant information;

(f) To encourage Member States to promote within the framework of sustainable forest management the conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity in all types of forests;

(g) To invite Member States to undertake national forest inventories, covering the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable forest management, for example, forest health, biodiversity, forest products and socio-economic and cultural aspects, with a view to enhancing the coherence and timeliness of information on forest resources, taking into account the need to further develop methodologies and the availability of resources, and encourage the international community to provide assistance to build national capacity in this regard;

(h) Also to invite Member States to consider the proposals contained in the Collaborative Partnership on Forests Strategic Framework for Forests and Climate Change and invite the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, consistent with their mandates, to promote the Strategic Framework;

(i) Further to invite Member States to use market-based approaches to develop and promote production and consumption of forest products from sustainably managed forests harvested according to domestic legislation;

2. Also decides:

(a) To underscore the urgency to address the threats and sustainable development challenges posed by climate change, loss of biodiversity and desertification and their interrelation with forests, as well as underscore the role of sustainable forest management, which takes into account the full range of forest goods and services, in addressing these threats and challenges and contributing to poverty eradication;

(b) To invite the governing bodies of member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, in particular the conferences of the parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on Biological Diversity, to continue to integrate, as appropriate, the sustainable management of all types of forests into their strategies by:

(i) Considering the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests which offers an integrated framework to implement sustainable forest management and the four global objectives on forests and to enhance the contribution of forests to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, as a means to help ensure coherence and avoid duplication;

(ii) Building on existing and well-established forest-related tools, processes, programmes and activities available at the national, regional and international levels to implement sustainable forest management, for example, national forest programmes; criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management and other related monitoring methodologies and assessment tools; and measures for capacity-building and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies;

(c) To encourage the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), as members of the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries, to collaborate with the secretariat of the Forum and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests in promoting sustainable forest management;

(d) To invite member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to support, within their capacities, consistent with their mandates and upon request, South-South cooperation initiatives concerning sustainable forest management, including through convening workshops and providing technical assistance, subject to available resources;

(e) To invite regional and subregional organizations and processes, as well as major groups and other forest stakeholders, to provide inputs to the Forum at its ninth session on the theme of "Forests for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication", inter alia, through sharing regional perspectives, approaches and experiences;

(f) To encourage Member States and request the secretariat of the Forum to explore ways to increase the participation of stakeholders and civil society, including indigenous and other local and forest-dependent communities, and other holders of traditional forest-related knowledge in future sessions of the Forum;

3. *Invites* the Collaborative Partnership on Forests:

(a) To provide information on recent developments in the areas of sustainable forest management, climate change, deforestation, land degradation, desertification and biodiversity, including impacts on indigenous and other local and forest-dependent communities, with a focus on the themes of the ninth session of the Forum;

(b) To continue to provide, consistent with its mandate, science-based information relevant to the themes of future sessions of the Forum, through adequate modalities, including the Global Forest Expert Panels, which should continue to include experts from developing countries;

4. *Requests* the secretariat of the Forum:

(a) To explore with the secretariats of the Rio Conventions a format and opportunities for collaboration and cooperation and develop targeted joint activities related to sustainable forest management, the four global objectives on forests and the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, including in the context of developments in the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the International Year of Biodiversity in 2010 and the International Year of Forests in 2011, and report progress to the Forum at its ninth session;

(b) To explore with members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests opportunities for collaboration with the secretariats of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, in particular, on issues relevant to sustainable forest management, and report on progress to the Forum at its ninth session;

(c) To collaborate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and with the criteria and indicator processes on the application of indicators, taking into consideration the seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management and national priorities and conditions, as applicable, and develop a format, with a view to assisting, upon request, Member States to report to the Forum on progress towards sustainable forest management and on national policies and measures and international cooperation and means of implementation as set forth in the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests;

(d) To seek participation in the Joint Liaison Group for the Rio Conventions when forest-related matters are discussed, with a view to highlighting and exchanging information on the important potential contribution of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests to the achievement of the Group's respective goals and objectives and to enhancing cooperation and coordination in the area of forests;

(e) To further promote and facilitate regional and subregional dialogue and cooperation on forests, including through country-led and region-led initiatives, to enhance regional and subregional contributions to implementation of sustainable forest management and inputs to future sessions of the Forum within the framework of the multi-year programme of work;

(f) To arrange for an interactive panel on the food, energy and economic challenges and opportunities for the implementation of sustainable forest management and the achievement of the global objectives on forests at the ninth session of the Forum, in the context of the overall theme on "Forests for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication";

(g) To seek ways, in consultation with Member States and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, to raise awareness of the linkages between sustainable forest

management and the situation of women and youth who depend on and use the forest to meet their basic daily needs, including for food, shelter and fuelwood, and to highlight this urgent issue at the ninth session of the Forum in the context of the overall theme on "Forests for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication";

(h) To synthesize, in cooperation with the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, current information on studies and implementation activities related to the recognition of the range of values derived from goods and services provided by all types of forests and trees outside forests, as well as ways to reflect such values in the marketplace taking into account relevant national legislation and policies, and present the result at the tenth session of the Forum in the context of the overall theme on "Forests and economic development";

(i) To develop a strategy, in consultation with Member States, for consideration by the Forum at its ninth session, to promote North-South as well as South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation, on sustainable forest management, which also identifies options of support by the international community, while noting that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation.

C. Decisions brought to the attention of the Council

The following decisions adopted by the Forum are brought to the attention of the Council:

Decision 8/1
Accreditation of an intergovernmental organization to the United Nations Forum on Forests

The United Nations Forum on Forests decided to accredit the African Forest Forum, an intergovernmental organization, to participate as an observer in its session.

Decision 8/2
Review process of the eighth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

The United Nations Forum on Forests decides to complete the consideration at its ninth session of agenda item 6, based on the bracketed draft text developed in informal consultations during its eighth session.[2]

[2] As presented on Friday, 1 May 2009. See E/CN.18/2009/WP.1; see also www.un.org/esa/forests.

Chapter II

Achieving the four global objectives on forests and implementing the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests

1. The Forum considered agenda item 3 at its 2nd and 9th meetings, on 20 April and 1 May 2009. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it the report of the Secretary-General on achieving the four global objectives on forests and implementing the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (E/CN.18/2009/2).

2. At its 2nd meeting, on 20 April, the Forum considered agenda item 3 and heard an introductory statement by the Director of the secretariat of the Forum.

3. At its 9th meeting, on 1 May, the Forum considered item 3 jointly with item 6, "Means of implementation for sustainable forest management".

Chapter III
Regional and subregional inputs

1. The Forum considered agenda item 4 at its 5th and 9th meetings, on 21 April and 1 May 2009. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on regional and subregional inputs (E/CN.18/2009/3);

(b) Letter dated 22 December 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (E/CN.18/2009/14);

(c) Letter dated 9 February 2009 from the Permanent Representatives of South Africa and Switzerland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (E/CN.18/2009/16);

(d) Letter dated 6 February 2009 from the Permanent Representatives of Australia and Switzerland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (E/CN.18/2009/18).

2. At its 5th meeting, on 21 April, the Forum heard an introductory statement by the Director of the secretariat of the Forum.

Panel discussion on "Forests in a changing environment"

3. At the same meeting an opening statement was made by the Assistant Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, who moderated the panel.

4. Also at the same meeting, the Forum heard presentations by Christian Küchli (Switzerland); Abdul Wahid Abu Salim, Chairman, Senior Official on Forestry, Association of Southeast Asian Nations; Martin Tadoum, Deputy Executive Secretary, Central Africa Forests Commission; Richard Huber, Principal Environmental Specialist, Department of Sustainable Development, Organization of American States; and Arne Ivar Sletnes, Head of the Liaison Unit, Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, followed by an interactive dialogue in which the delegations of Jamaica and China participated.

5. At the same meeting, the representatives of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the Montreal Process also took part in the discussion.

6. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Southern African Development Community made a statement.

Action taken by the Forum

Forests in a changing environment, enhanced cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination, regional and subregional inputs

7. At its 9th meeting, on 1 May, the Forum had before it a draft resolution entitled "Forests in a changing environment, enhanced cooperation and

cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination, regional and subregional inputs", contained in an informal paper in English only, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held in Working Group I.

8. At the same meeting statements were made by the Vice-Chairmen, Modest Mero (United Republic of Tanzania) and Arvides Ozols (Latvia), in their capacity as Co-Chairmen of Working Group I.

9. Also at the same meeting the Forum adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. B).

Chapter IV

Forests in a changing environment:

(a) Forests and climate change;

(b) Reversing the loss of forest cover, preventing forest degradation in all types of forests and combating desertification, including in low forest cover countries;

(c) Forests and biodiversity conservation, including protected areas

1. The Forum considered agenda item 5 at its 4th, 6th and 9th meetings, on 21 and 22 April and 1 May 2009. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on forests and climate change (E/CN.18/2009/4);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on reversing the loss of forest cover, preventing forest degradation in all types of forests and combating desertification, including in low forest cover countries (E/CN.18/2009/5);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on forests and biodiversity conservation, including protected areas (E/CN.18/2009/6);

(d) Note by the Secretariat on forests in a changing environment: low forest cover countries, small island developing States and high and medium forest cover countries (E/CN.18/2009/7);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on recommendations for addressing key challenges of forests in a changing environment (E/CN.18/2009/8).

2. At the 4th meeting, on 21 April, an introductory statement was made by the Director of the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

3. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the Chairman of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests Global Forest Expert Panels.

Panel discussion on forests and biodiversity, climate change and desertification

4. At the 4th meeting, on 21 April, an opening statement was made by the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, who moderated the panel.

5. At the same meeting, presentations were made by Ahmed Djoghlaf, Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity; Luc Gnacadja, Executive Secretary, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; and Jan Heino, Assistant Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, after which there was an interactive dialogue in which the delegations of the Republic of Korea, Mauritania, Suriname, Switzerland, Israel, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Benin, Senegal, Argentina and the United States of America participated.

6. Also at the same meeting a statement was made by the representative of the Global Environment Facility.

7. At the same meeting, following the conclusion of the panel discussion, the Forum continued its general discussion and heard statements by the representatives of the Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union), Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil, India and Croatia.

8. At its 6th meeting, on 22 April, statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Indonesia, Chile, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Peru, Israel, Saint Lucia, Finland, Kyrgyzstan, Guyana, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Palau.

Chapter V

Means of implementation for sustainable forest management:

(a) Applying means of implementation, including financial resources, capacity-building and the transfer of environmentally sound technology;

(b) Decision on a voluntary global financial mechanism, a portfolio approach and a forest financing framework

1. The Forum considered agenda item 6 at its 3rd, 8th and 9th meetings, on 20 and 28 April and 1 May 2009. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on finance and other means of implementation for sustainable forest management (E/CN.18/2009/9);

(b) Chair's summary report of the meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Expert Group to Develop Proposals for the Development of a Voluntary Global Financial Mechanism/Portfolio Approach/Forest Financing Network (E/CN.18/2009/11);

(c) Note verbale dated 6 February 2009 from the Permanent Mission of Suriname to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (E/CN.18/2009/17).

2. At the 3rd meeting, on 20 April, an introductory statement was made by the Director of the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

Panel discussion on the financial crisis and sustainable forest management: threat and opportunity

3. At the 3rd meeting on 20 April, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, who moderated the panel, made an opening statement.

4. The Forum heard presentations by James Warren Evans, Director, Environment Department, World Bank; Emmanuel Ze Meka, Executive Director, International Tropical Timber Organization; and Russ Mittermeier, President, Conservation International, after which the Forum engaged in an interactive dialogue, in which the delegations of Argentina, Benin, India and Japan participated.

5. At the same meeting, following the conclusion of the panel discussion, the Forum heard statements by the representatives of China, the United States, India, Chad, Pakistan, Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Argentina, Japan, Chile, Australia, South Africa, the Dominican Republic and New Zealand.

6. At the 8th meeting, on 28 April, a statement was made by the representative of Turkey.

Action taken by the Forum

Review process of the eighth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

7. At the 9th meeting, on 1 May, an oral draft decision was proposed by the Chairman, whereby the Forum would decide to complete the consideration of item 6 at its next session, based on the bracketed draft text developed in informal consultations during its eighth session, which would be contained in an annex to the decision.

8. At the same meeting, before the adoption of the draft decision, statements were made by the representatives of the Sudan (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Brazil, Australia, Japan, the Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union), Switzerland, New Zealand, the United States, Malaysia (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)) and Algeria (on behalf of the African Group).

9. At the same meeting, the Forum adopted the draft decision (see chapter I, section C, decision 8/2).

Chapter VI
Multi-stakeholder dialogue

1. The Forum considered agenda item 7 at its 6th and 8th meetings, on 22 and 28 April 2009. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on multi-stakeholder dialogue (E/CN.18/2009/13);

(b) Discussion paper submitted by the women major group (E/CN.18/2009/13/Add.1);

(c) Discussion paper contributed by the children and youth major group (E/CN.18/2009/13/Add.2);

(d) Discussion paper contributed by the non governmental organizations and indigenous peoples major group (E/CN.18/2009/13/Add.3);

(e) Discussion paper contributed by the scientific and technological community major group (E/CN.18/2009/13/Add.4);

(f) Discussion paper contributed by the farmers and small forest landowners major group (E/CN.18/2009/13/Add.5).

Interactive discussion among Member States, major groups and members of Collaborative Partnership on Forests

2. The Forum held an interactive discussion among Member States, major groups and members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests at its 6th and 8th meetings, on 22 and 28 April 2009.

3. At the 6th meeting, an opening statement was made by the Executive Director of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, who moderated the first part of the interactive discussion.

4. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: women; scientific and technological community; children and youth; non-governmental organizations; indigenous peoples; and farmers and small forest landowners; as well as by the representatives of Grenada, Argentina, the Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union), Jamaica, Switzerland, the United States, Indonesia and China.

5. At the 8th meeting, on 28 April, a statement was made by the Director of the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

6. At the same meeting, the Forum resumed the interactive discussion and a statement was made by the Executive Director of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, who also moderated the second part of the discussion.

7. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the children and youth major group, on behalf of the major groups.

8. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: women; scientific and technological community; children

and youth; non-governmental organizations; indigenous peoples; and farmers and small forest landowners; as well as by the representatives of Japan, the Dominican Republic, Angola, Peru, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Lebanon, Grenada, Yemen, Uruguay, Belarus, Algeria, Mauritania and Fiji.

Panel discussion on Forests, women and fuelwood

9. At the 6th meeting, on 22 April, an opening statement was made by the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, who moderated the discussion.

10. The Forum heard presentations by Carolyn Makinson, Executive Director, Women's Refugee Commission; Lambert Okrah, Secretary-General, Institute of Cultural Affairs International; Kanchan Lama, Coordinator, Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resources Management, Nepal; and Pieter van Midwoud, Executive Secretary, CarbonFix, after which an interative dialogue took place in which the representatives of Cambodia, the United States and the United Republic of Tanzania participated.

Chapter VII

Enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests

1. The Forum considered agenda item 8 at its 2nd and 9th meetings, on 20 April and 1 May 2009. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination (E/CN.18/2009/10);

(b) Information document on the Collaborative Partnership on Forests Framework 2008 and 2009 (E/CN.18/2009/12).

2. At its 3rd meeting, on 20 April, an introductory statement was made by the Chairman of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

3. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Sudan (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), the Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union), Papua New Guinea (on behalf of the Pacific Island Countries), Croatia, Angola, Suriname, Nepal, Malaysia (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)), Indonesia, Brazil and Colombia.

Chapter VIII
Forum Trust Fund

1. The Forum considered agenda item 9 at its 9th meeting, on 1 May 2009. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it the following document: Note by the Secretariat on the United Nations Trust Fund for the United Nations Forum on Forests (E/CN.18/2009/15).

2. At the 9th meeting, on 1 May 2009, a statement was made by the Director of the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

3. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Switzerland.

Chapter IX

Dates and venue for the ninth session of the Forum

1. At its 9th meeting, on 1 May 2009, the Forum decided that its ninth session would be held from 24 January to 4 February 2011 (see chapter I, section A, draft decision I).

Chapter X

Provisional agenda for the ninth session of the Forum

1. At its 9th meeting, on 1 May 2009, the Forum had before it the draft provisional agenda for its ninth session, which was contained in an informal paper submitted in English only.

2. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Brazil, after which the Forum adopted the provisional agenda (see chapter I, section A, draft decision II).

Chapter XI
Adoption of the report of the Forum on its eighth session

1. At its 9th meeting, on 1 May 2009, the Chairman introduced the draft report of the Forum on its eighth session (E/CN.18/2009//L.1).

2. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Brazil, after which the Forum adopted the draft report and authorized the Secretariat to finalize it with the support of the Bureau.

Chapter XII
Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The United Nations Forum on Forests held its eighth session at United Nations Headquarters on 27 April 2007 and from 20 April to 1 May 2009. The Forum held nine plenary meetings (1st to 9th).

2. The session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

B. Attendance

3. The Forum was attended by representatives of States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies. Representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and of intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended. The list of participants is contained in document E/CN.18/2009/INF/1.

C. Election of officers

4. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 27 April 2007 and 20 April 2009, the Forum elected the following officers for its eighth session:

Chairman:
Boen Purnama (Indonesia)

Vice-Chairmen:
Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco)
Arvids Ozols (Latvia)
Modesto Fernández (Cuba)
Glen Kile (Australia)

5. At its 7th meeting, on 24 April 2009, the Forum was informed that Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco) had withdrawn from the position of Vice-Chairman. At the same meeting, Modest Mero (United Republic of Tanzania) was elected by acclamation.

D. Adoption of the agenda

6. At its 2nd meeting, on 20 April, the Forum adopted the following provisional agenda for its eighth session (E/CN.18/2009/1):

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Achieving the four global objectives on forests and implementing the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests.
4. Regional and subregional inputs.
5. Forests in a changing environment:

(a) Forests and climate change;

(b) Reversing the loss of forest cover, preventing forest degradation in all types of forests and combating desertification, including in low forest cover countries;

(c) Forests and biodiversity conservation, including protected areas.

6. Means of implementation for sustainable forest management:

(a) Applying means of implementation, including financial resources, capacity-building and the transfer of environmentally sound technology;

(b) Decision on a voluntary global financial mechanism, a portfolio approach and a forest financing framework.

7. Multi-stakeholder dialogue.

8. Enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

9. The Forum Trust Fund.

10. Dates and venue for the ninth session of the Forum.

11. Provisional agenda for the ninth session of the Forum.

12. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its eighth session.

E. Documentation

7. The list of documents before the Forum at its eighth session is contained in annex I to the present report.

F. Establishment of working groups and designation of their chairmen

8. At its 2nd meeting, on 20 April, the Forum established two working groups that were chaired by the Vice-Chairmen as follows:

(a) Working Group I: Arvids Ozols (Latvia)

(b) Working Group II: Modesto Fernández (Cuba) and Glen Kile (Australia)

9. At its 7th meeting, on 24 April, Modest Mero (United Republic of Tanzania) was designated to serve as Co-Chairman of Working Group I.

G. Accreditation of an intergovernmental organization to the United Nations Forum on Forests

10. At its 2nd meeting, on 20 April 2009, the Forum had before it a request from the African Forest Forum for accreditation as an intergovernmental organization to participate as an observer in the deliberations of the Forum, which was contained in document E/CN.18/2009/19.

11. At the same meeting, the Forum decided to approve the request of the African Forest Forum to participate as an observer in the deliberations of the Forum (see chapter I, section C, decision 8/1).

Annex I

List of documents

Document symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
E/CN.18/2009/1	2	Provisional agenda and annotations
E/CN.18/2009/2	3	Report of the Secretary-General on achieving the four global objectives on forests and implementing the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests
E/CN.18/2009/3	4	Report of the Secretary-General on regional and subregional inputs
E/CN.18/2009/4	5 (a)	Report of the Secretary-General on forests and climate change
E/CN.18/2009/5	5 (b)	Report of the Secretary-General on reversing the loss of forest cover, preventing forest degradation in all types of forests and combating desertification, including in low forest cover countries
E/CN.18/2009/6	5 (b)	Report of the Secretary-General on forests and biodiversity conservation, including protected areas
E/CN.18/2009/7	5 (b)	Note by the Secretariat on forests in a changing environment: low forest cover countries, small island developing States and high and medium forest cover countries
E/CN.18/2009/8	5	Report of the Secretary-General on recommendations for addressing key challenges of forests in a changing environment
E/CN.18/2009/9	6	Report of the Secretary-General on finance and other means of implementation for sustainable forest management
E/CN.18/2009/10	8	Report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination
E/CN.18/2009/11	6	Chair's summary report of the meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Expert Group to Develop Proposals for the Development of a Voluntary Global Financial Mechanism/Portfolio Approach/Forest Financing Network

Document symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
E/CN.18/2009/12	8	Information document on Collaborative Partnership on Forests Framework 2008 and 2009
E/CN.18/2009/13	7	Note by the Secretariat on the Multi-stakeholder Dialogue
E/CN.18/2009/13/ Add.1	7	Discussion paper submitted by the women major group
E/CN.18/2009/13/ Add.2	7	Discussion paper contributed by the children and youth major group
E/CN.18/2009/13/ Add.3	7	Discussion paper contributed by the non-governmental organizations and indigenous peoples major group
E/CN.18/2009/13/ Add.4	7	Discussion paper contributed by the scientific and technological community major group
E/CN.18/2009/13/ Add.5	7	Discussion paper contributed by the farmers and small forest landowners major group
E/CN.18/2009/14	4	Letter dated 22 December 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
E/CN.18/2009/15	9	Note by the Secretariat on the United Nations Trust Fund for the United Nations Forum on Forests
E/CN.18//2009/16	4	Letter dated 9 February 2009 from the Permanent Representatives of South Africa and Switzerland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
E/CN.18/2009/17	6 (b)	Note verbale dated 6 February 2009 from the Permanent Mission of Suriname to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
E/CN.18/2009/18	4	Letter dated 6 February 2009 from the Permanent Representatives of Australia and Switzerland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
E/CN.18/2009/19	2	Accreditation of an intergovernmental organization to the United Nations Forum on Forests
E/CN.18/2009/INF.1	1	List of participants

Annex II

Chairman's summary of the multi-stakeholder dialogue

1. The multi-stakeholder dialogue[a] at the eighth session of the Forum was held in two parts, on 22 April and on 28 April. It was moderated by Peter Mayer, Executive Director of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations.

Part 1

2. Women stressed that as the primary household decision makers in many parts of the world, they should play an important part in sustainable forest management and in global climate change negotiations. It was emphasized that gender inequalities, magnified by climate change, slowed down progress towards achievement of sustainable development and poverty reduction. Women reminded participants that their major group had been asking, since the fourth session of the Forum, for structural changes to strengthen the role of women and implement a gender strategy within forestry processes, such as the Forum and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as in forestry organizations and institutions. Women proposed that that could be done through a country led initiative focused on gender issues within the programme of work of the Forum, including the role of women in adaptation for climate change and forest issues. Women also requested a consultative group on gender and forestry; pilot projects through partnerships between Governments and civil society, and with regional and global organizations to prepare scenarios on how climate change funding mechanisms could directly benefit women; and facilitation of women in forest and climate change related meetings. It was also suggested that Governments should comply with their political commitments on gender equality and women's rights; mainstream gender in the Forum; appoint a gender focal point at the secretariat of the Forum; build capacity for gender mainstreaming in forestry institutions at all levels; and integrate gender analysis in climate change issues within agricultural, forestry, mining and disaster management planning. In addition, it was suggested that the forest community should hold a dialogue with food security and poverty alleviation communities. It was also recommended that funding be made available for women to participate in the Forum's decision-making and advocacy processes.

3. The scientific and technological community pointed out that information demands were multiplying as forestry management concerns had expanded to include non-timber objectives such as the preservation of habitats and needs of forest communities. Four key priority areas for action were recommended: enhancing the interface between science and policy in forestry; enhancing the transformation of research outputs into usable information and technologies; aligning national, subregional and regional development priorities with the four global objectives on forests; and mobilizing funding for forestry research, education and extension. It was suggested that future forest arrangements should make resources available to enhance the interface between science and policy; facilitate and finance capacity-building in research and development; support extension and

[a] The major groups participating in the multi-stakeholder dialogue were women, scientific and technological community, children and youth, non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples, farmers and small forest landowners.

the application of scientific and technological innovations as well as traditional forest-related knowledge; support subregional and regional initiatives/programmes to tackle multi-national, transboundary forest-related problems; and support the establishment of regional forestry information systems to improve access to and utilization of science-based information on forests. The scientific and technological community asked for the financing mechanism to support capacity-building in problem analysis, project formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation; harmonization of funding priorities in line with regional, subregional, and national priorities; and simplification of funding applications procedures. Other recommendations included a long-term programme-based commitment to invest in strengthening forest research capacities and support research networks and activities; the mobilization of support from Governments, members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and international organizations to assist regional and subregional forest research networks in enhancing forest research capacities; and improvements in the communication/information infrastructure, and networking between forest scientists, research institutions, universities, policymakers, local communities and other forest sector stakeholders.

4. Children and youth pointed out that they had been actively participating in the Forum since 2003 and were pleased that the Forum had reflected the major group's calls for a strong instrument on forests. It was emphasized that capacity-building, good governance and education were important tools in sustainable forest management, and that it was time to put words into action. Sustainable forest management aimed to maintain and enhance the economic, environmental and social value of forests for the benefit of current and future generations, but that required funding, especially in developing countries where the challenges were greatest. Meanwhile, demand for forest resources in developed countries was contributing to deforestation in those countries. In terms of mobilizing resources, the major group considered that the portfolio approach would result in the highest total number of funds available; public funding from developed countries should form part of that portfolio. The financial mechanism should include a system of checks and balances to make the use of the resources more transparent. Children and youth stressed that the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Developing Countries mechanism would not be sufficient to implement the forest instrument as it would not help all forests with important social and environmental values, such as high biodiversity. It was also noted that, while forests could become net sources of carbon under certain climate change scenarios, forests represented a major opportunity for counterbalancing the emissions caused by the ongoing burning of fossil fuels. Since youth in rural areas often suffered the most from forest loss, it was stressed that there was a responsibility to arrive at a strong answer for them and for future generations. Children and youth called for the Forum to agree on effective means of implementation, including finance, with participation of all relevant actors.

5. Non-governmental organizations and indigenous peoples voiced their deep concern on the lack of ability by key actors to curb deforestation and forest degradation. It was felt that there was a lack of recognition of indigenous peoples and local communities based near or in forests on which they depended. Non-governmental organizations pointed out that replacing natural forests and other ecosystems with artificial forests was a direct cause of forest loss and degradation and threatened the last remaining natural forests, and that reforestation activities

should restore the forests' natural attributes based on scientific and traditional knowledge. Concerns were raised on the impact of activities of the Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Developing Countries related to the rights and governance structures of indigenous people, creation of monocultures and the focus on forests for conservation purposes so that benefits would not accrue to indigenous people and local communities. Non-governmental organizations and indigenous peoples called for action to halt the alarming loss of forests worldwide. It was pointed out those actions should implement the customary rights of indigenous people and local communities, consistent with international human rights and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In particular, those actions should address the underlying causes of deforestation, promote community forest governance that empowered local peoples, support traditional forest-related knowledge, take into account the cultural and spiritual aspects of forests, develop benefit-sharing approaches and establish a financial arrangement accessible to indigenous people and local communities. Non-governmental organizations and indigenous peoples also proposed a forest regime that, inter alia, ensured policy coherence and compliance between legally binding agreements and the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests; ensured coherence between forest international agreements and forest people's rights; contributed to a more equitable climate regime, taking into account the principle of common but differentiated responsibility; ensured the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities and women in the development of forest policies as well as projects of the Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Developing Countries; ensured the equitable participation of indigenous people, local communities and countries that had successfully conserved forests; addressed the underlying causes of forest loss; provided a broad range of incentives to indigenous people and local communities for forest conservation, sustainable use and reforestation without undermining customary governance systems; and recognized and respected historical territorial and use rights of indigenous people and local communities.

6. Farmers and small forest landowners pointed out that their major group represented more than half of the forest area and forest products produced in many countries. It was highlighted that family and community forest owners managed their land for multiple values and objectives. They implemented sustainable forest management in practice at the regional and local levels by integrating wood production, non-timber forest products and biodiversity conservation in their day-to-day work with the forests. It was also stressed that deforestation and forest degradation was often caused by poverty and forces outside the forest sector. It was believed that the long-term solution for sustainable forest management was to base forest management on local people, building capacity of family and community forestry by securing property rights, land tenure rights and the long-term viability of forests. Farmers and small forest landowners said that programmes related to the Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Developing Countries concentrated on the carbon aspects of forests which were only one part of the broader concept of sustainable forest management. It was pointed out that family and community forest owners had proved their ability to protect their forests and associated carbon stocks, and that it would require a simple mechanism to reward private and community forestry for those services. It was, therefore, seen as crucial that political tools to enhance the implementation of sustainable forest management

fully take into account the role of farmers and small forest landowners and build on existing organizations and local networks and communities.

7. In the interventions that followed, delegations welcomed the comments from the major groups, encouraged their continued involvement and offered particular congratulations to the children and youth major group for its report. Issues that were discussed included the importance of secure tenure rights, maintaining forests for future generations, the need to recognize education as a means of implementation, the importance of improving communication through effective monitoring and reporting, and the major group initiative proposed by the non-governmental organizations. It was also suggested that the Forum should discuss the valuation of forest services and land tenure rights at its ninth session. The issue of energy poverty was mentioned as it affected developing countries in general and household energy in particular. Other comments included the need to pay attention to the Millennium Development Goal of poverty alleviation, the importance of building partnerships for sustainable forest management, the need to support indigenous and local communities against more powerful actors and the integration of traditional rights in national law. It was pointed out that forests were multifunctional and carbon sequestration should not be taken in isolation. Non-governmental organizations and indigenous peoples responded that it was important to work together for the implementation of the forest instrument and asked member States to support the participation of major groups in the celebration of the International Year of Forests in 2011. They welcomed the participation of major groups in the meetings of the conference of the parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as the meetings of the Forum.

Part 2

8. The Director of the Forum secretariat highlighted the important role of major groups in the work of the Forum and in forest decision-making processes. The secretariat outlined its activities related to increasing participation of major groups in the Forum and in reaching out to stakeholders. It was noted that there had been little participation by the local authorities or business and industry major groups in the Forum. The secretariat invited suggestions from the participants on how to secure wider engagement by stakeholders.

9. A joint statement was delivered on behalf of all the major groups participating in the dialogue. The statement highlighted that given the important share of world forests managed by indigenous peoples or as community and family forests, land tenure and ownership rights were a critical foundation for policy and policy tools. The need for equal rights for women and indigenous peoples to access land ownership and other resources was stressed. Major groups called for integration of climate change mitigation and adaptation with timber production, the production of non-timber forest products and environmental services, such as biodiversity conservation or clean water production, which was seen as a long-term solution to achieving sustainable forest management. It was pointed out that that would require capacity-building. Major groups urged the Forum and all forest-related programmes and processes to recognize the rights of indigenous peoples who lived in forests and depended on forests. Those rights were established within international instruments, such as the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, ILO Convention

(No. 169) concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Similarly, they called for compliance with the Convention for Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women. Major groups called for a dedicated funding mechanism under the Forum that would be easily accessible to all major groups, and also recommended periodic assessments and reviews of the funding mechanism, involving major groups. Investment in strengthened forest research capacities, particularly in developing countries, was seen as a means to provide technical assistance to major groups. Finally, major groups reminded delegations of their proposal (set out in paragraph 23 of E/CN.18/2009/11) for a major groups initiative which would contribute to subsequent sessions of the Forum as well as those of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the International Year of Forests.

10. Women highlighted the active role of their major group in the development of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests. The role of women in planning, decision-making and management of forests was stressed. The need for women to have increased equitable access to all information, education and training, technology and credit for forest resource management was noted. Better arrangements for representing gender perspectives at the Forum were called for. The need to consider agro-forestry, which could give women access to firewood as well as food, was mentioned. Priority areas for sustainable forest management included promoting equal access of women to land ownership and other resources necessary for effective socio-economic participation in forest management and climate mitigation strategies; ensuring compliance with international and national commitments on gender equality and equity, including in the context of climate change mitigation and adaptation; involving women from local communities and women's organizations at all stages and levels of decision-making on new implementation mechanisms; improving forest governance and bringing about changes in forestry institutions to ensure that the process was responsive to poor women's needs, by integrating gender into their structures, policies and programmes; and for the Forum, developing structures and processes that addressed gender issues related to sustainable forest management.

11. The scientific and technological community underlined the importance of science and technology in achieving the global objectives on forests. It was noted that the institutional capacity for sustainable forest management was weak in many developing countries, with little investment in scientific research. Where political upheavals and civil conflict had devastated the capability of countries to manage forests sustainably, there should be funding for rehabilitation programmes that included support for strengthening human resources and facilities. Highlighting the obstacles arising from complex funding application processes, the importance of utilizing national and regional experience in developing programmes and projects was stressed. In addition, it was proposed that a dedicated subsidiary body on science and technology be established, with the principal objective of providing scientific advice to the Forum towards achieving the global objectives on forests.

12. The children and youth major group said that the primary objective of its participation was to promote intergenerational equity in sustainable forest management through education, transfer of knowledge, and securing the right to access natural resources for the younger generations. The major group expected the Forum to send a message to the 2009 United Nations climate change conference on the potential role of forests in mitigating and adapting to climate change; to

emphasize that the significant contribution of sustainable forest management to the mitigation of climate change impacted on forests and related ecosystems, as well as soil and water conservation; to mobilize sufficient resources to implement the forest instrument; and to emphasize the responsibility to use and tend natural resources in a way that did not deprive future generations of their right to meet their own needs. Children and youth asked that reserved funding be dedicated for youth-led and youth-targeted initiatives which promoted peer-education in forestry-based activities. Finally, it was stressed that education was the best legacy to enable intergenerational advancement in sustainable forest management and that "A sustainable future for today's children and future generations is in your hands".

13. Non-governmental organizations pointed out that the main challenge was effective implementation of policies agreed by the Forum and its predecessor bodies. While non-governmental organizations were keen to engage in participatory forums, constraints included financial provision and accreditation rules of the Economic and Social Council. The major group considered that implementation of the forest instrument was blocked by vested interests that controlled the exploitation of forest resources, lack of political will and increasing reliance on market-based solutions. The forest instrument should address the underlying causes of forest loss, including lack of recognition of indigenous peoples' rights, unsustainable consumption and production patterns and unsustainable financial and trade flows. Another serious problem was lack of funding for implementation in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition. Non-governmental organizations and other major groups should have a role in implementing financial mechanisms. The major group also reminded delegations of the views expressed by experts at the Ad Hoc Expert Group to Develop Proposals for the Development of a Voluntary Global Financial Mechanism/Portfolio Approach/Forest Financing Framework, held in Vienna in November 2008, highlighting paragraphs 23, 32, 38, 49, 50 and 52 of the Chair's summary report.

14. Indigenous peoples reaffirmed their special relationship and sacred connection with Mother Earth. They expressed deep concern about unsustainable and false solutions that were accelerating climate variability and risked destroying Mother Earth. Indigenous peoples were experiencing profound and adverse impacts on their cultures, environmental and human health, human rights, traditional lifestyles, food systems, food sovereignty, local infrastructure, economy and survival. They had a historical role as custodians of Mother Earth through their knowledge, spirituality, experience and relationships with their traditional lands. Indigenous peoples who lived in forests depended on them; it was not acceptable to regard forests as carbon alone, without taking into account their multiple values. The mechanisms of the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Developing Countries should recognize the rights enshrined in the international instruments referred to in the joint statement. There should be effective participation of indigenous peoples at all levels in a financial mechanism established by the Forum and they should have direct access to funds.

15. Farmers and small forest landowners highlighted the importance of secure land tenure rights for sustainable forest management, along with good governance, law enforcement, capacity-building and financing. The major group supported the establishment of a global forest fund and considered that it should support secure land tenure and ownership rights; capacity-building, knowledge transfer activities and the consolidation of local organizations and networks; green jobs and rural

livelihoods; the profitability of sustainable forest management, including payments for environmental services, and transparent, accessible and fair markets for forest products; consolidate and expand successful practices already implemented by family and community forests; reduce deforestation and forest degradation, and increase forestation and reforestation; give family and community forestry organizations access to forest-related policy processes at the global, regional, national and local levels; and fight against forest-related corruption, supporting good governance and law enforcement.

16. During the subsequent dialogue between delegations and the representatives of the major groups, a number of delegations provided examples from their countries that highlighted points made by the major groups. Those included experience with implementation of a national plan on reforestation where women were usually the leaders of working groups; problems associated with increasing scarcity of fuelwood and the increased burden that that put on women and their families; progress with protection of indigenous peoples' rights; engagement of local communities; recognition of the important role of non-governmental organizations in promoting and implementing sustainable forest management; and involvement of stakeholders in policy development processes. It was also recognized that agroforestry was an important topic that should be further addressed by the Forum. There was discussion about the need for non-governmental organizations to avoid further fragmentation or duplication of effort by coordinating activities with Governments and working within frameworks established by national forest programmes. There was also discussion about recognizing the distinctiveness of indigenous peoples, as compared to simply regarding them as citizens of their country; in response to that, the representative of the indigenous peoples' major group highlighted the continuing vulnerability of indigenous peoples in many places. Thanking the major groups, the moderator reiterated a suggestion made by a number of delegations about the need to reflect the major groups' contributions in the future work of the Forum.

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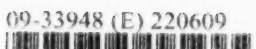

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